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Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

November 15, 1994

The Honorable Jim Sasser
United States Senate
363 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Sasser:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of Sheriff Gayle E. Ray of Davidson County, Tennessee, regarding the Commission's Billed Party Preference (BPP) proceeding. On May 19, 1994, the Commission adopted a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in this proceeding. I have enclosed a copy of the Further Notice and press release accompanying it for your information.

The Further Notice sets forth a detailed cost/benefit analysis of BPP. This analysis indicates, based on the available data, that the benefits of BPP to consumers would exceed its costs. The Further Notice sought comment on this analysis and asked interested parties to supplement the record concerning the costs and benefits of BPP. The Further Notice also invited parties to recommend alternatives to BPP that could produce many of the same benefits at a lower cost. Reply comments were due September 14, 1994. Presently, the Commission is evaluating the comments submitted and considering the implementation of BPP along with other options.

The Further Notice also explicitly sought comment on whether correctional facility telephones should be exempt if BPP is adopted. Specifically, the Further Notice sought additional information on the effectiveness and costs of controlling fraud originating on inmate lines with or without BPP. The Further Notice also sought comment on a proposal to exempt prison telephones from BPP if the operator service provider adheres to rate ceilings for inmate calling services.

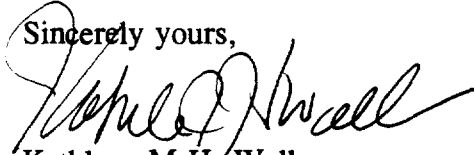
BPP would not preclude prison officials from blocking or limiting inmate calls to specific telephone numbers in order to prevent threatening and harassing calls. Moreover, BPP would not affect the ability of prison officials to limit inmates to collect calling or to program telephone equipment at the prison site to block certain numbers.

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The Honorable Jim Sasser
Page 2

Thank you for your interest in this proceeding. I can assure you that the Commission will carefully examine all of the comments submitted in response to the Further Notice, including additional empirical data regarding the costs and benefits of implementing BPP and the impact of BPP on telephone service from correctional facilities.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Kathleen M.H. Wallman', written in a cursive style.

Kathleen M.H. Wallman
Chief
Common Carrier Bureau

Enclosures

JIM SASSER
TENNESSEE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4201

September 22, 1994

OKA
9/27/94
5006
COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

BANKING, HOUSING,
AND URBAN AFFAIRS

BUDGET—CHAIRMAN

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have received the enclosed information from Sheriff Gayle E. Ray of Davidson County, Tennessee, regarding her concerns about the effects of Billed Party Preference on security at correctional facilities in the County.

I would appreciate your looking into the matters raised by Sheriff Ray, being as helpful as possible to her concerns. I would further appreciate your providing me with a report.

Thank you for your courtesy and assistance.

Sincerely,


Jim Sasser
United States Senator

GAYLE E. RAY

August 17, 1994

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

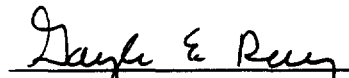
In the Matter of)	
)	CC Docket 92-77
Billed Party Preference)	
For 0+ InterLATA Calls)	

COMMENTS OF GAYLE E. RAY, SHERIFF-ELECT

I am writing to express grave concern about the possibility of Billed Party Preference becoming a reality. This would cause a serious problem at our correctional facilities under the management of the Sheriff of Davidson County.

The primary concern with BPP is one of security. It is very important to the safety and security of our jails to be able to block certain telephone numbers, to manage the length of calls, and to block 3-way calling. This greatly cuts down on fighting and the ability of an inmate to make harassing telephone calls or telephone calls for illegal purposes.

I urge you not to institute Billed Party Preference. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.



Gayle E. Ray, Sheriff-Elect
Washington Square Building, Suite 500
222 Second Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37201-1649

c: Senator Jim Sasser ✓
Senator Harlan Mathews
Congressman Bob Clement

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